

Message Text

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61

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03

IO-14 AID-20 EB-11 AGR-20 NIC-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /162 W

----- 097059

R 271410Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7188

INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OUAGADOUGOU 2230

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, CH, UV

SUBJ: PRC OPERATION OF EX-ROC PROJECTS

REF: A) STATE 205602; B) OUAGA 2083

1. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN MUCH SPECULATION ABOUT POSSIBILITY PRC TAKING OVER FORMER ROC KOU VALLEY RICE PROJECT, THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN ANY DEFINITE INDICATION THAT PRC WILL INDEED DO SO.

2. ACTING DIRECTOR OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AT MINISTRY AGRICULTURE CONFIRMED THAT GOUV HAS INQUIRED ABOUT PRC WILLINGNESS MAINTAIN PROJECT AFTER DEPARTURE TAIWANESE TECHNICIANS (REF B). ACTING DIRECTOR INDICATED THAT CHINESE HAVE SHOWN SOME INTEREST IN VOLTAN RICE PROJECTS IN GENERAL BUT ARE NOT TOO KEEN ABOUT KOU PROJECT IN PARTICULAR. SIMILARLY, DEPARTING ROC AGRICULTURAL EXPERTS AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS INDICATED THEY HAD NOT HEARD ANYTHING SUGGESTING PROC INVOLVEMENT. (FYI: TAIWANESE FORMALLY TURNED PROJECT OVER TO VOLTANS ON OCTOBER 13. END FYI.)

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3. UNDP/FAO EXPERTS AT MARTOUKOU AGRICULTURAL CENTER

NEAR KOU VALLEY ALSO SEEM CONVINCED PRC WILL NOT FOLLOW
UP ON KOU RICE PROJECT. THEY ARE CONCERNED PROJECT
WILL COLLAPSE AND HAVE INFORMALLY ASKED US IF WE
WOULD BE WILLING TO HELP THEM PICK IT UP.

4. ON OTHER HAND, PRC CHARGE TOLD FRENCH AMBASSADOR
SEVERAL DAYS AGO THAT PRC "WOULD TAKE OVER EVERYTHING
THE TAIWANESE WERE DOING."

5. I TOOK INITIATIVE TO SHAKE HANDS WITH PRC CHARGE
AND INTERPRETER LAST NIGHT AT DIPLOMATIC FUNCTION.
THEY STOOD ALONE MOST OF THE EVENING IN WHAT APPEARED
AS PURPOSEFUL REFUSAL TO TALK WITH OTHER DIPLOMATS.
DOUBT THEY ARE GOING TO BE PARTICULARLY INFORMATIVE
AT LEAST DURING THESE EARLY DAYS. THE LOCAL PING PONG
CIRCUIT MAY PROVE MORE PRODUCTIVE.
EASUM

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